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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 (amended). An electrode and getter structure for a gas discharge device that includes a frame having a cavity therein that contains a gain medium and an electrode bore extending from a surface of the frame to the cavity, comprising:

a metallization [metallization] layer formed on the surface of the frame, the metallization [metallization] layer including an electrode that is adjacent the electrode bore;

a getter well scaled to the metallization layer [mounted to the frame] around the electrode bore; and

a getter mounted in the getter well spaced apart from the frame.

Please cancel claim 2.

3 (amended). The electrode and getter structure of claim 1 [2] wherein the metallization [metallization] layer includes an electrical contact arranged so that an electrical signal may be applied to the electrode.

4 (amended). The electrode and getter structure of claim 1 wherein the getter well comprises a hollow glass cylinder having a closed end and an open end mounted to the metallization [metallization] layer.

5 (amended). The electrode and getter structure of claim 4 further comprising a spring retained in the getter well [by elastic forces in the spring with the getter] being attached to the getter [spring] and aligned with the electrode bore, the spring being arranged to support the getter.

6 (amended). An electrode and getter structure for a gas discharge device that includes a frame having a cavity therein that contains a gain medium and an electrode bore extending from a surface of the frame to the cavity, comprising:

a metallization [metallization] layer formed on the surface of the frame, the metallization [metallization] layer including:

a ring that extends around the electrode bore and is spaced apart therefrom;

an electrode formed in the metallization [metallization] layer to extend inward in the ring to a location adjacent the electrode bore; and

an electrical contact in the metallization [metallization] layer and arranged to extend away from the ring;

a getter well sealed to the metallization [metallization] layer;

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a spring mounted in the getter well such that elastic forces in the spring retain it in a selected position; and

a getter mounted in the getter well spaced apart from the frame and aligned with the electrode bore.

7 (amended). A method for forming an electrode and getter structure for a gas discharge device that includes a frame having a cavity therein that contains a gain medium and an electrode bore extending from a surface of the frame to the cavity, comprising the steps of:

forming a metallization [metallization] layer on the surface of the frame, the metallization [metallization] layer being formed to include an electrode that is adjacent the electrode bore;

sealing a getter well to the metallization layer [frame] around the electrode bore; and

mounting a getter in the getter well spaced apart from the frame.

8 (amended). The method of claim 7 including the steps of forming the metallization [metallization] layer to extend around the electrode bore; and

securing the getter well is to the metallization [metallization] layer.

9 (amended). The method of claim 8 including the step of forming the metallization [metallization] layer to include an electrical contact arranged so that an electrical signal may be applied to the electrode.

12 (amended). A method for forming a gas discharge device that includes a frame having a cavity therein that contains a gain medium and an electrode bore extending from a surface of the frame to the cavity, comprising:

forming a metallization [metallization] layer as a ring that extends around the electrode bore and is spaced apart therefrom on the surface of the frame:

forming an electrode in the metallization [metallization] layer that extends inward in the ring to a location adjacent the electrode bore; and

forming an electrical contact in the metallization [metallization] layer extending away from the ring;

providing a getter well;

mounting a getter to a spring;

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